



LIVE



LEARN



EXPLORE



Director Joseph Wynns and National
Park Service Director Mary Bomar

GREETINGS!

We are pleased to share our 2007 Indy Parks & Recreation Annual Report with you. Parks are the vital centers of every city in America and Indianapolis is no different. We are proud to continue our commitment to improving the quality of life for all Indianapolis residents. This annual report celebrates Indy Parks' accomplishments, including:

- Finalist, National Gold Medal Award for Excellence for Park and Recreation Management.
- Providing services and facilities to more than 8 million park visitors through various programs, parks and greenways.
- Benefiting from more than \$1.1 million in grants which supported park programs and facilities.
- Named Tree City USA for the 19th consecutive year.
- 1.6 million visitors on the Indy Parks Web site, www.indyparks.org.

This agency could not offer quality programs, parks and facilities without the committed efforts, dedication and generosity of community and corporate partners, volunteers and staff. We are thankful to all of you who understand the importance and value of parks in our community. We invite you to explore Indy Parks and discover for yourselves the progress and vision of our world-class parks system!

Joseph Wynns, Director
Indy Parks and
Recreation



MISSION

Indy Parks and Recreation shall provide clear leadership and well-defined direction for enhancing the quality of life for Indianapolis and Marion County residents by providing park and recreation resources and services that:

Provide and/or facilitate quality recreation and leisure opportunities;

Encourage and support natural and cultural resource stewardship and environmental education;

Include safe, clean and well-maintained park facilities for the community’s fun and enjoyment;

Promote and facilitate mutually beneficial countywide partnerships.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Indy Parks Host NRPA	4
Indy Parks at a Glance	5
Advocacy	6
Grants, Alliances, Partnerships, Sponsorships	7
Community Recreation and Sports	8
Park Maintenance	10
Golf	11
Environmental Education and Natural Resources	12
Greenways	13
Park Rangers	14
Resource Development	15
2007 Donor Recognition	16
Financial Report	18

Indy Parks and Recreation
City-County Building
Room 2301
200 East Washington Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
(317) 327-PARK
www.indyparks.org

INDY PARKS HOSTS NRPA



2007 NRPA Congress and Exposition

Indy Parks welcomed the 2007 National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Congress and Exposition to Indianapolis Sept. 25-29.

Congress Highlights

- The 11TH largest convention to visit Indianapolis in 2007.
- 9,000 park and recreation delegates from 22 countries and 50 states in attendance.
- Set an NRPA record of 115,000 square feet of exhibition space sold at the Indiana Convention Center.
- More than \$10.7 million in direct visitor spending.
- 510 exhibitors and vendors showcased the latest industry products and services.
- More than 500 volunteers contributed 50,000 hours of service.
- Indy Parks honored as a finalist for the Gold Medal Award for Excellence for Parks and Recreation management.
- First off site, non-vehicular greenway bike ride.





The Earth Discovery Center at Eagle Creek Park offers environmental education programming to visitors of all ages.

206 PARKS 23 AQUATIC FACILITIES
25 FAMILY CENTERS 13 GOLF COURSES
18 SPRAY GROUNDS 4 NATURE CENTERS
4 DISC GOLF COURSES 3 DOG PARKS
2 ICE RINKS MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL
CONSERVATORY AND SUNKEN GARDEN
ARTS CENTER VELODROME SKATE PARK
BMX COMPLEX

ADVOCACY



Local governance support groups advise and encourage Indy Parks and Recreation by identifying community needs and resources. From preservation and future development to planning and funding, our boards, advisory councils, and committees serve the Indianapolis community by protecting and promoting our parks as sanctuaries for cultural, educational and recreational activities.

Bel-Aire Park Advisory Council

Broad Ripple Park Advisory Council

Brookside Park Advisory Council

Bethel Park Advisory Council

Christian Park Advisory Council

Eagle Creek Park Foundation

Friends of Douglass Advisory Council

Friends of Garfield Park

Friends of Garfield Park Conservatory

Friends of Holliday Park

Friends of Skiles Test Advisory Council

Friends of South West Indy Parks

Garfield Park Art Center Advisory Council

Greenways Foundation

Indianapolis Parks Foundation

Kennedy King Park Advisory

Krannert Park Advisory Council

Kuntz Park Advisory Council

Major Taylor Velodrome Advisory Council

Municipal Gardens Park Advisory

Northwestway Park Advisory Council

Raymond Park Advisory Council

Rhodus Park Advisory Council

Riverside Park Advisory Council

Southeastway Park Advisory Council

Thatcher Park Advisory Council

Washington Park Advisory Council

Watkins Park Advisory Council

GRANTS, ALLIANCES, PARTNERSHIPS, SPONSORSHIPS



The G.A.P.S. program fills the void between service delivery and necessary resources. By forming mutually beneficial partnerships with local organizations and businesses, Indy Parks is able to expand its reach into all corners of Marion County.

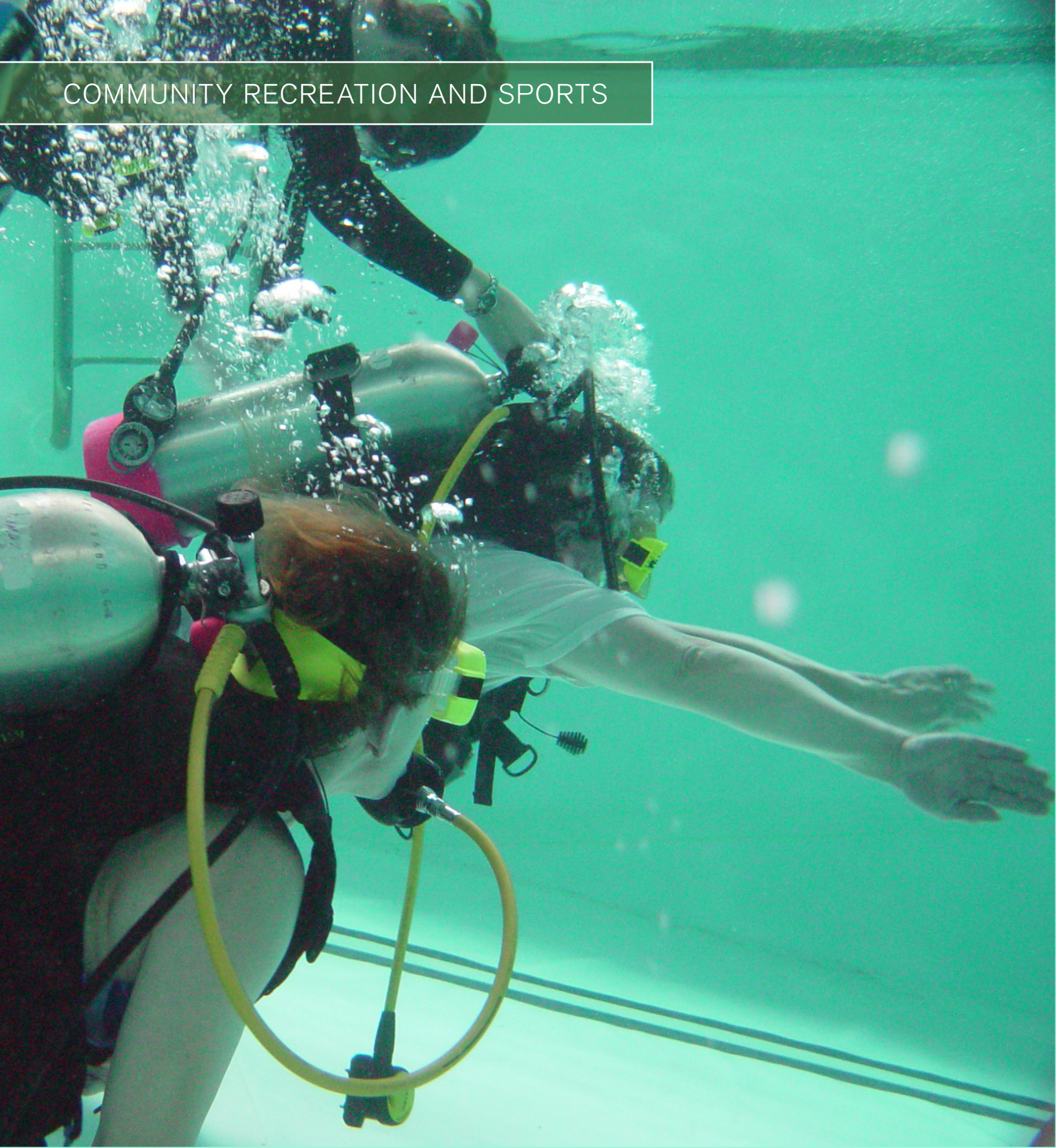


Windsor Village – Partners Building Parks For Life

Serving a neighborhood of more than 2,700 residents on the city's near east side, Windsor Village Park had been in need of major improvements. For nearly four years, the Indianapolis Parks Foundation in partnership with Indy Parks worked to secure the \$2 million in public and private dollars necessary for the construction of a family center. In 2007, a \$350,000 contribution from the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust Fund and a \$250,000 IPF grant matched with Indy Parks' \$500,000 from its capital improvement budget helped bring the Windsor Village dream to a new \$1 million milestone. Community and corporate donors participated in a ground breaking celebration on Dec. 12, 2007. The new 12,000 square foot family center will feature a computer lab, education space, a fitness area, game room and indoor gym. Outdoor amenities will include a new ADA-accessible playground, basketball court, picnic shelter and walking trails. Construction schedule is set for completion by late 2008.

2007 Accomplishments

- Awarded more than \$1.1 million in grants to support parks, programs and facilities.
- Benefited from 70,000 volunteer hours logged in at various park programs and events.
- Provided 118,761 free lunches to children through The Summer Food Service Program at 97 park locations in Indianapolis.
- Awarded a \$32,800 grant from the Summer Youth Program Fund to benefit four youth programs: Camp GATHER, Mi Familia Latin Arts Academy, Lifeguard Training and Indy Kids in Motion.
- Received a \$200,000 Land and Water Conservation Fund grant from Indiana Department of Natural Resources to support the acquisition of land and trail establishment at Southwestway Park.

An underwater photograph of two scuba divers in a swimming pool. The diver in the foreground is wearing a black wetsuit, a yellow BCD, and a silver tank. They are looking down. The second diver is behind them, wearing a white shirt and a black wetsuit, looking towards the camera. Bubbles are rising from their regulators. The pool's lane lines are visible on the bottom.

COMMUNITY RECREATION AND SPORTS

The Community Recreation and Sports Division provides high-quality recreational services and sports programs to Marion County residents. Our unique sports facilities include indoor and outdoor aquatic centers, sports courts and fields, ice rinks, an art center, a velodrome, skate park and BMX track. They are open to the public for leagues, groups or family fun!

THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF COMMUNITY RECREATION'S CORE AREAS IN 2007 INCLUDE:

Aquatics

Received \$7,600 Summer Youth Program Fund grant for financial assistance for lifeguard and junior lifeguard class.

Trained more than 300 lifeguards to staff 23 aquatic facilities.

Partnered with Indianapolis Public Schools to provide Learn to Swim lessons for 225 students.

Arts Services

Offered 1,172 programs in performing and visual arts to more than 17,000 patrons at the Garfield Park Arts Center.

Provided free open studio classes at the Garfield Park Arts Center to adults interested in painting, drawing, claywork and sculpture through a \$25,000 grant from Comcast.

Hosted 689 youth in the Mi Familia Latin Arts Exploration and Arts Academy program—a free arts-intensive summer camp.

Entertained more than 50,000 people with Summer Arts in the Park activities, which include free movies, concerts, art exhibits and other special events.

Day Camps and After-School Programs

Received a \$45,000 contribution for Character Discovery Challenge (CDC), training and staffing for playgrounds.

Received a \$13,940 grant for Drug Prevention training, materials, and fieldtrips.

350 people participated in national, Lights on Event, that focused on the need for after-school programming, held in October at Garfield Park.

Family Centers

Received a \$2,000 Rotary Grant to fund ten fitness initiatives at Bethel Park.

Celebrated the grand opening of Paul Ruster Bark Park—the city's third Canine Companion Zone.

Developed an anti-violence initiative at Washington Park—"Peace in the Streets"—and hosted the first Peace Parade with more than 700 community members.

Health & Fitness

Hosted 241 youth at the Indy Kids Triathlon in an exciting format that promoted fun, physical activity and self-confidence.

Provided therapeutic recreation opportunities for more than 1,600 adults and youth.

Received the 2007 Organizational Award from the NRPA and the National Therapeutic Recreation Society.

Awarded a \$9,500 Lilly Summer Youth Fund grant to provide adaptive equipment for youth in summer day camps.

Neighborhood Parks

Launched the Eastside Recreation Mobile Unit, serving more than 750 youth, ages 8-16, in low-income public housing.

Served 21,619 youth at 33 sites through the free Summer Supervised Playground Program.

Seniors

Developed the New Beginnings Senior Program providing wellness programs, daily hot meals and free transportation for 800 participants.

Sports and Special Facilities

Hosted the Pike Fest Soccer Tournament with 230 teams and more than 10,000 spectators at the Geisse Soccer Complex.

Introduced 270 IPS students to ice sports and winter recreation at Ellenberger Park through Ice Exploration—an 8-week fitness and educational program.



PARK MAINTENANCE



The Park Maintenance Division maintains Indy Parks' facilities and park properties. Operating elements include beautification, forestry, grounds, facility maintenance, land improvement and natural resources.

2007 Accomplishments

- Indy Parks' forestry division maintains the overall health of the City's urban canopy. In 2007, it obtained more than \$80,000 for programs and projects.
- Processed 23,250 Christmas trees into quality mulch to be used for landscaping greenways, playgrounds and parks through the Christmas Tree Recycling program.
- Oversaw the planting of 3,968 landscape trees on city property.
- Responded to 493 emergency calls.
- Removed 1,508 dead and hazardous trees, including removal of storm debris and hazardous trees.
- Processed 108 permits and 17 ordinance violations.
- Recipient of the Indiana Arborist Association Gold Leaf Award for annual Arbor Day program.
- Named Tree City USA for the 19th consecutive year.
- Received the Tree City Growth Award for the fifth consecutive year.
- Added 6,000 cubic yards of playground surface material to 30 playgrounds.
- Installed seven new landscapes at various Indy Parks facilities.
- Installed a new playground sidewalk and trail at Southeastway Park.
- Partnered with Forestry and Horticulture divisions to beautify JTV Hill Park.





The Golf Division provides high quality golf opportunities for people of all ages and abilities throughout the Indianapolis community. Core responsibilities include managing municipal courses and contracts, as well as overseeing planning and capital improvements at each course.

The 12 courses include

Coffin Golf Course
 Douglass Golf Course
 Eagle Creek Golf Course
 Pleasant Run Golf Course
 Riverside Golf Course
 Riverside Golf Academy
 Sahm Golf Course
 Sarah Shank Golf Course
 Smock Golf Course
 Thatcher Golf Course
 Whispering Hills Golf Course
 Winding River Golf Course

2007 Accomplishments

- The Indy Parks Junior Golf program hosted 550 inner city youth through its summer youth golf program.
- Indy Parks designed and constructed a new clubhouse at Thatcher Golf Course. The new building will replace the old building and the cart storage building, which were both built in 1963. Carts will be stored under the new building in a basement that opens onto the lower level parking lot.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES



The Environmental Education and Natural Resources Division provides quality environmental education and facilities to the community while protecting and preserving the natural assets of Indianapolis parks for people and wildlife.

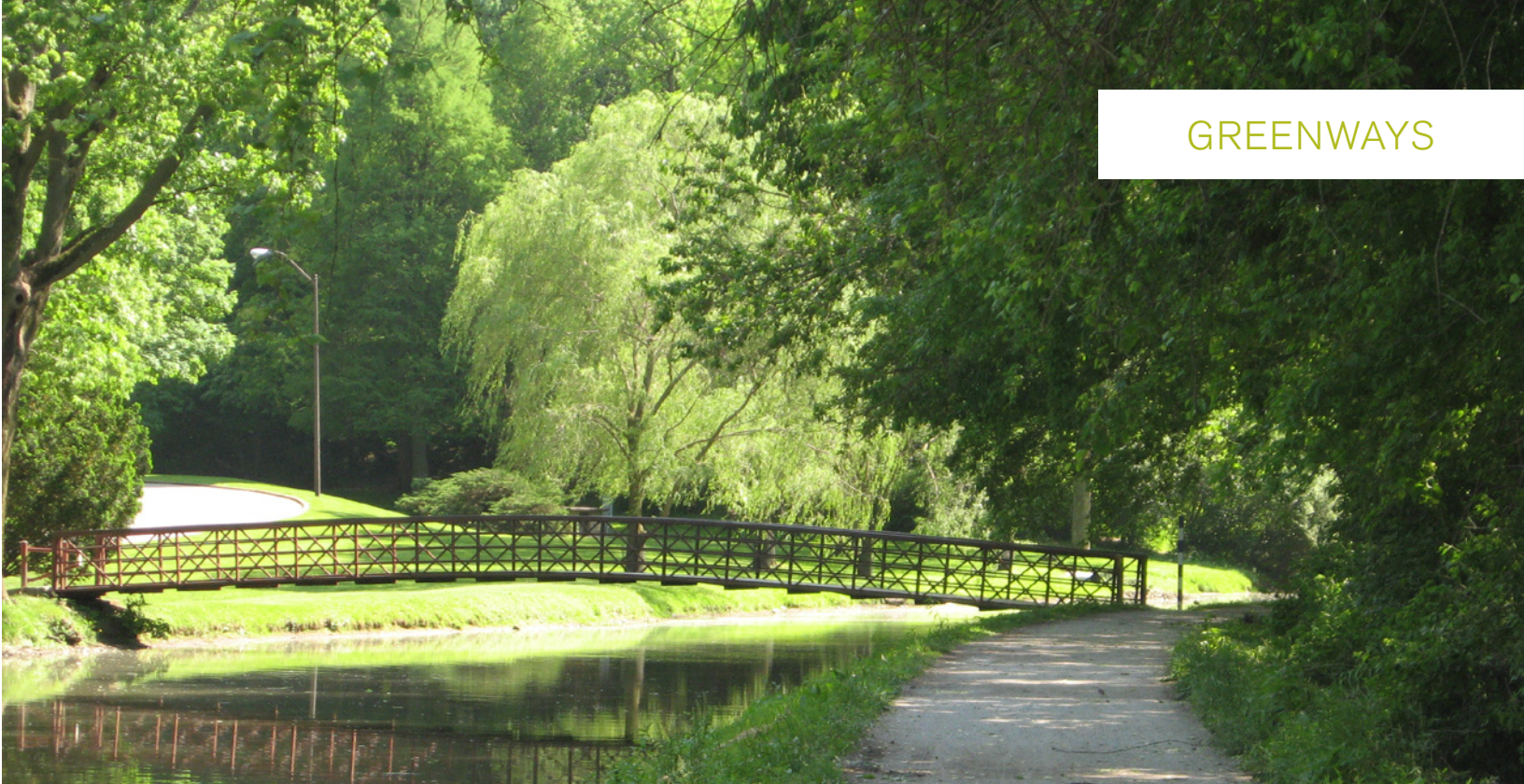
2007 Accomplishments

- Hosted more than 1,069,261 visitors at environmental education facilities and parks.
- Benefited from more than 20,651 volunteer hours with activities from wetland restoration projects to leading nature hikes. The total cost savings to Indy Parks was \$387,619.
- Generated more than \$164,758 in Grants, Alliances, Partnerships and Sponsorships throughout the year benefiting the parks and programs.
- Partnered with Future Farmers of America (FFA) to improve and beautify a portion of the historic Kessler Boulevard system of Indianapolis. More than 200 students from across the United States worked to restore an area along Fall Creek by planting more than 350 trees and then installing protective caging to ensure their long term success.
- Converted more than 101 acres of turf grass and agricultural areas to more natural settings reducing the number of acres required for mowing.
- Removed 166 acres of exotic and invasive vegetation from areas throughout Marion County.
- Performed restoration activities on a variety of properties resulting in 120 acres of reforestation plots being maintained and 62 acres of prairie plantings being installed.



Earth Discover Center Opens

In fall 2007, Indy Parks opened the Earth Discovery Center at Eagle Creek Park, a 14,000 square foot state-of-the-art nature center providing a venue for environmental education on topics from water quality to insects, Indiana reptiles to bio-diversity. This building incorporates a number of environmentally friendly features including a geo-thermal heating and cooling system, automated lighting fixtures, recycled furniture, and more.



2007 Accomplishments

- Hosted the 19TH Annual White River Cleanup where 150 volunteers netted seven tons of trash.
- Acquired 1.1 miles of the Pennsy Trail Corridor – a proposed 5.5 mile multi-use trail that will be a resource to both the transportation and recreation systems of the Indianapolis area.
- Provided recreational opportunities for more than 2.7 million users on 56.38 miles of trails and 1,078 acres of greenways.
- Coordinated more than 8,243 volunteer hours for trail maintenance, cleanup and landscape beautification projects.
- Partnered with the FFA students to clean up 17 acres of greenway and planted 350 native trees and shrubs.
- Hosted the 2nd annual Pleasant Run/Walk event in honor of National Trails Day.
- Began construction on the Skill and Challenge area at Town Run Trail Park – Indianapolis' only public site for off-road mountain bike trail riding in the metropolitan area.



PARK RANGERS



The Safety and Security Division of the Department of Parks and Recreation implements safety, security and risk management plans for park users. The Indianapolis Park Rangers enforce local and state law as well as park policies, procedures and ordinances, by providing patrols and emergency response to city-owned parks, greenways and golf courses.

2007 Accomplishments

- Park Rangers contributed 365 hours of service for the NRPA event. They were responsible for manning the command center and establishing Emergency Action Plans.
- During routine patrol Park Rangers accumulated more than 68,000 park checks, made personal contact with over 116,000 park patrons and assisted more than 2,600 citizens in Marion County.
- Responded to 3,600 dispatch runs and nearly 400 park property alarm calls. Took possession of 18 illegal guns, investigated 29 drug cases and wrote 330 in-park-after-hour citations and handled more than 100 alcohol-related ordinance violations.
- Rangers provided 1,800 hours in crowd management, traffic control and added uniform security for more than more than 90 scheduled park events.



2007 Accomplishments

- Provided \$503,069 for renovations to Ellenberger Pool's filters and construction of a baby pool.
- Began construction, totaling \$413,079, on the Fall Creek Greenway Trail.
- Developed a \$160,000 playground at Rhodius Park.
- Indy Parks purchased land at 11500 East Troy Avenue, an area where significant residential development is expected, for \$720,000.
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2007 DONOR RECOGNITION



Starfish Aquatics Institute

Allstate Insurance Company

Burrito Joint

Coca Cola Enterprises Company

Dagwood's Deli & Sub Shop Broad Ripple

Harbor Graphics

Wellcare

Kenney Outdoor Solutions

Radio Now 100.9

Cardwell Garden Center

Pet Corral

IPS School #63

IPS School #37

IPS School #27

IPS School #82

IPS School #49

IPS School #31

Washington Park Volunteer Committee

Eddie Hannon

Northview Christian Church

Krannert Park Advisory Council

Laughing Squares

Northview Middle School

Phyllis Freeman II

Society of Creative Anachronism

Starfish Aquatics Institute, Inc.

Willard J. Gambold Middle School

Duvall Residential Center

Fred Huffman

Indianapolis Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc.

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.

Printing Partners

Individuals, organizations and businesses made contributions to benefit the work of Indy Parks and Recreation. These generous gifts helped increase public greenspace, build new parks, provide much needed capital improvements to existing facilities and support quality programs that benefit children, families and older adults. A special thanks to your continued commitment to building a world-class parks system.

Tammy Haley	Stacey Williams
David Toth	Stephanie Roach
Greater Shepherd Missionary Baptist Church	Alphonso Smith
Helen Wolfe	Bring It To Table Inc.
Jay Height	Center Township Trustee/Teresa Larkins
Kids Church-Cory Johnson	Orchard in Bloom
Marilyn Gurnell	Arthur Medicine Eagle
Minority Health Coalition	Midwest Mandolin Festival
New Jerusalem Outreach	Mountain Dulcimer Society
Nikki Blaine Designs	Jeff Coates
South Indy Youth Hockey	Marion Superior Court Adult Probation Department
Steven Saxton	Garfield Shakespeare Company
Tamika Catchings	Indianapolis Metropolitan High School
Aida McCammom	Irvington Garden Club
Indiana History Center	Jeremy McKinney
Indiana Women's Rugby	Scecina High School
Indianapolis City Market	Oscar Banegas
International Soccer League	Pete Watford
Irvington Guild of Artists	Susie Davie
Nate Johnson	Courtney Mulcahy
Project Impact Inc.	Dewayne Himes
Salvation Army Harbor Light Center	Easter Seals Crossroads and Rainbows End
Shonna Jennings	Indianapolis Metropolitan High School
Stacey Williams	North Star Capoeira
The Indianapolis 500 Festival	Tanz-Manie Dance Troupe
Washington Community School	Central Indiana Orchid Society
Asian American Alliance	Indiana Daffodil Society
Carl Clark	Indy African Club
Center for Inquiry/ IPS #2	Sages Garden Club
Crispus Attucks Medical Magnet School	Friends of Holiday Park
David Thompson	Indiana Daylily Iris Society
Friends of Irving Circle	

INDY PARKS AND RECREATION CONDENSED FINANCIAL REPORT

Revenues:

Taxes	\$ 15,766,335
Charges for Services	\$ 4,658,203
Local Grants and Donations	\$ 95,045
Federal and State Grants	\$ 763,767
Sales and Lease of Property	\$ 258,817
Interest and Other Operating Revenues	\$ 104,317

Total Revenues: \$ 21,646,484

Other Financing Sources:

Prior Year Encumbrances Carryover	\$ 3,491,997
Consolidated County Allocation	\$ 1,543,500
Motor Vehicle Highway Allocation	\$ 753,802
City Cumulative Capital Allocation	\$ 3,834,000

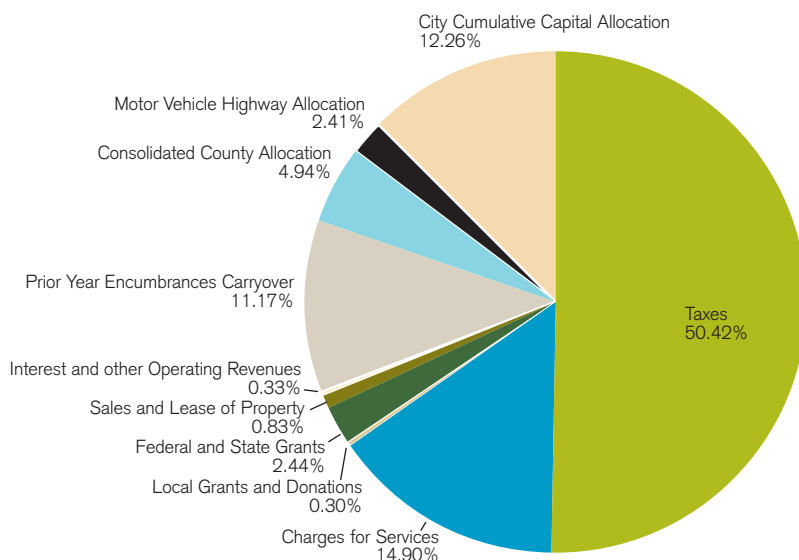
Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources: \$ 31,269,783

Expenditures:

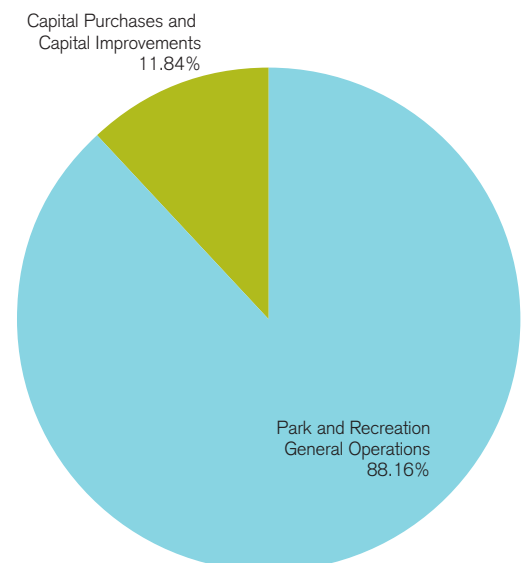
Park and Recreation General Operations	\$ 29,075,864
Capital Purchases and Improvements	\$ 3,904,563

Total Expenditures: \$ 32,980,427

Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources



Expenditures







INDY PARKS AND RECREATION
City-County Building, Room 2301
200 East Washington Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
(317) 327-PARK

www.indyparks.org

